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Held at Headquarters, New York,
on Friday, 14 February 1992, at 10.30 a.m.

President: Mr. SHIHABI (Saudi Arabia)

- Appointments to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other appointments

  (k) Appointment of members of the International Civil Service Commission: report of the Fifth Committee [18] (continued)

- Financing of the United Nations Advance Mission in Cambodia: report of the Fifth Committee (Part II) [146] (continued)

- Financing of the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia: report of the Fifth Committee [148]

- Programme of work

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The meeting was called to order at 10.40 a.m.

AGENDA ITEM 18 (continued)

APPOINTMENTS TO FILL VACANCIES IN SUBSIDIARY ORGANS AND OTHER APPOINTMENTS

(k) APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS OF THE INTERNATIONAL CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION: REPORT OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE (A/46/878)

AGENDA ITEM 146 (continued)

FINANCING OF THE UNITED NATIONS ADVANCE MISSION IN CAMBODIA: REPORT OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE (PART II) (A/46/823/Add.1)

AGENDA ITEM 148

FINANCING OF THE UNITED NATIONS TRANSITIONAL AUTHORITY IN CAMBODIA: REPORT OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE (A/46/879)

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): I call on the Rapporteur of the Fifth Committee, Mr. Mahmoud Barimani of the Islamic Republic of Iran, to introduce the reports of the Fifth Committee in one intervention.

Mr. BARIMANI (Islamic Republic of Iran), Rapporteur of the Fifth Committee: I have the honour today to present to the General Assembly the three reports of the Fifth Committee under three agenda items: document A/46/878 on agenda item 18 (k), "Appointments to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other appointments: Appointment of members of the International Civil Service Commission"; document A/46/823/Add.1 (Part II) on agenda item 146, "Financing of the United Nations Advance Mission in Cambodia"; and document A/46/879 (Part I), on agenda item 148, which covers the first phase of the financing of the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia.

(Mr. Barimani, Rapporteur, Fifth Committee)

I should like to begin by introducing the report on agenda item 18 (k). The Committee considered this sub-item at its 58th meeting. The recommendation of the Committee in this respect is contained in paragraph 4. In sum, the Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the appointment of Mr. Mario Bettati of France and Ms. Lucretia Myers of the United States of America to the International Civil Service Commission for terms of office ending 31 December 1993.

The Committee considered agenda items 146, "Financing of the United Nations Advance Mission in Cambodia", and 148, "Financing of the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia", at its 58th and 59th meetings, on 12 and 13 February 1992. At the 59th meeting, the Chairman of the Fifth Committee put before the Committee the texts of the two draft resolutions on the United Nations Advance Mission in Cambodia (UNAMIC) and the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC), respectively.

The Committee adopted without a vote draft resolution A/C.5/46/L.21, on UNAMIC, as orally amended. I should like to draw members' attention in particular to paragraph 3 of the draft resolution, the General Assembly would decide

> "to appropriate an amount of 19,257,000 United States dollars gross (19,204,000 dollars net), inclusive of the amount of 10 million dollars authorized by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions under the terms of General Assembly resolution 46/187 of 20 December 1991 for the expansion of the United Nations Advance Mission in Cambodia for the period from 15 January to 30 April 1992;".
>
> (A/46/823/Add.1, p. 3)

(Mr. Barimani, Rapporteur, Fifth Committee)

In paragraph 6 of the report (A/46/823/Add.1), the Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the draft resolution.

The Committee also adopted without a vote draft resolution A/C.5/46/L.22, on UNTAC. In paragraph 3 of that resolution, the General Assembly would decide:

"to appropriate an amount of 200,000,000 United States dollars to meet the initial, unavoidable requirements, as indicated in the reports of the Secretary-General and of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, to enable the Secretary-General to initiate the action necessary for a timely deployment of the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia consistent with the eventual plan of implementation, and requests the Secretary-General to establish a special account for the Authority;". (A/46/879, p. 3)

In paragraph 6 of the report (A/46/879), the Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the draft resolution.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): If there is no proposal under rule 66 of the rules of the procedure, I shall take it that the General Assembly decides not to discuss the reports of the Fifth Committee that are before the Assembly today.

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): Statements will therefore be limited to explanations of vote.

The positions of delegations regarding the various recommendations of the Fifth Committee have been made clear in the Committee and are reflected in the relevant official records.

May I remind members that, under paragraph 7 of decision 34/401, the General Assembly agreed that:

> "When the same draft resolution is considered in a Main Committee and in plenary meeting, a delegation should, as far as possible, explain its vote only once, i.e., either in the Committee or in plenary meeting unless that delegation's vote in plenary meeting is different from its vote in the Committee".

May I remind delegations that, also in accordance with General Assembly decision 34/401, explanations of vote are limited to 10 minutes and should be made by delegations from their seats.

Before we begin to take action on the recommendations contained in the reports of the Fifth Committee, I should like to advise representatives that we are going to proceed to take decisions in the same manner as was done in the Fifth Committee.

(The President)

We turn first to the report (A/46/878) of the Fifth Committee on sub-item (k) of agenda item 18, concerning the appointment of members of the International Civil Service Commission.

In paragraph 4 of that report the Fifth Committee recommends that the General Assembly should appoint the following persons as members of the International Civil Service Commission for a term of office beginning on 14 February 1992 and ending on 31 December 1993: Mr. Mario Bettati and Ms. Lucretia Myers.

May I take it that the General Assembly approves these recommendations?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): We have thus concluded this stage of our consideration of sub-item (k) of agenda item 18.

The Assembly will next consider Part II of the report (A/46/823/Add.1) of the Fifth Committee on agenda item 146, "Financing of the United Nations Advance Mission in Cambodia".

The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft resolution recommended by the Fifth Committee in paragraph 6 of its report. The Fifth Committee adopted the draft resolution without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 46/198 B).

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): We have thus concluded our consideration of agenda item 146.

The Assembly will now consider the report (A/46/879) of the Fifth Committee on agenda item 148, "Financing of the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia".

(The President)

The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft resolution recommended by the Fifth Committee in paragraph 6 of its report. The Fifth Committee adopted the draft resolution without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 46/222).

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): I call on the representative of Japan, who wishes to make a statement.

Mr. HATANO (Japan): After decades of unspeakable misery and suffering, the Cambodian people can now begin to rebuild their shattered nation and look forward to a peaceful future. It is thanks to the efforts made by the Cambodians themselves, as well as by the international community as a whole, that an agreement has been reached on a comprehensive political settlement to the Cambodian conflict. Japan commends all those who have actively contributed, throughout the peace process, to the progress achieved thus far.

The signing of the peace documents, however, should not be regarded as the conclusion of efforts to restore peace to the war-torn country. On the contrary, the achievement marks the beginning of a series of new challenges; a range of difficulties lies ahead.

I welcome the fact that the Supreme National Council has proved itself as a legitimate consultative organ in Cambodia and is functioning effectively thanks to the superb leadership of His Royal Highness Prince Norodom Sihanouk. But I do not believe anyone would disagree that, in order to ensure a long-lasting peace in Cambodia, United Nations involvement as soon as possible is essential. For this reason, Japan has been strongly urging the smooth and timely deployment of the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC).

(Mr. Hatano, Japan)

Japan thus supports the Secretary-General's proposal to provide an initial appropriation of $200 million which will enable him to make preparations for UNTAC's start-up phase. This is necessary to ensure that the emplacement of large quantities of equipment and services will be adequately and efficiently carried out.

Although it is unusual to seek a substantial appropriation for a peace-keeping operation prior to the General Assembly's review and approval of the detailed cost estimate, Japan considers that this approach is germane to the particular circumstances surrounding UNTAC. All of us, I am sure, share the Secretary-General's concern that the unprecedented scale and scope of UNTAC's mission, the degraded Cambodian infrastructure, and climatic and other conditions in that country will create serious logistical problems that, if unresolved, could prolong the whole process. My delegation is pleased that, thanks to the cooperative efforts between the Secretariat and the delegations concerned, a practical solution has been found, as outlined in the resolution which the Assembly has just adopted. The prompt action taken by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions also deserves our appreciation.

Given the scope of the mandate entrusted to it by the Paris agreements and the magnitude of its operations, UNTAC will surely be the most ambitious and complex operation ever carried out by the United Nations. The efforts of Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali and his Special Representative for Cambodia, Mr. Yasushi Akashi, regarding the preparation of UNTAC are to be highly commended. Still further efforts are needed at this critical stage. However, I can assure the Assembly that UNTAC will have Japan's unstinting support as it discharges its important responsibilities.

(Mr. Hatano, Japan)

The reintegration of hundreds of thousands of refugees and displaced persons into the daily life of Cambodia is also an urgent task. In this respect, we note with satisfaction that the Security Council expanded the mandate of the United Nations Advance Mission in Cambodia (UNAMIC) to include mine clearing. My delegation concurs with the recommendation of the Fifth Committee on the appropriation covering the additional requirements of UNAMIC in respect of its expanded responsibilities. I strongly urge that mine clearance activities begin without delay so as to ensure that the process of repatriating more than 350,000 Cambodian refugees and displaced persons can get under way even before the onset of the rainy season.

It is my understanding that the Secretary-General is preparing, as an integral part of the comprehensive political settlement, an assistance programme for the repatriation and relief of refugees and displaced persons which will be coordinated and implemented under the leadership of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). My Government expects that the Secretary-General will complete the elaboration of this programme as soon as possible.

The challenges that lie ahead are awesome. As the United Nations assumes an ever greater role in maintaining international peace and security, its Cambodian operation will be a critical test as to how effectively it is able to respond to today's changing world.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): We have thus concluded this stage of our consideration of agenda item 148.

PROGRAMME OF WORK

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): Representatives are aware that there are a number of States that have requested admission to the United Nations. The Security Council has acted on seven such requests and is considering one more this afternoon. It remains for the Assembly to consider those applications for membership.

In this connection, in order to give States recommended by the Security Council for membership in our Organization the opportunity, if the General Assembly acts favourably on their requests, to participate in the work of the United Nations at the earliest possible date, I should like to schedule the consideration of the admission of new Members for Friday, 28 February.

Furthermore, in the interest of organizing the work of the Assembly as efficiently as possible and in order also to assist delegations in planning for future meetings of the Assembly, I should like to inform representatives that I intend to schedule two resumed sessions to consider pending matters and any matters arising - if any - in the agenda. The dates for the resumed sessions are as follows: a resumed session beginning on the first Tuesday of April, that is, Tuesday, 7 April; and a resumed session beginning on the fourth Tuesday of June, that is, Tuesday, 23 June.

The duration of the sessions would be contingent on the items to be considered. It is understood that the Assembly would meet only on those dates, barring an emergency situation requiring the convening of the Assembly at a time other than those already envisaged.

The meeting rose at 11.10 a.m.